

persons may be remitted by postal money order, deducting the money order commission:

Reply of Government.—Noted.

FORESTS.

(Nos. 94 to 100.)

SUBJECT No. 94.

Reservation of forests in the malnad.

Messrs. N. Subba Rao and Mylarappa, Nagar taluk; Tammayyabhatta and Agumbe Rama Rao, Tirthahalli taluk; K. Shankarnarayana Rao, Nagar Sabha and Nadig Bhaskar Rao, Shimoga District Board.

Summary of discussion.—Lands for various communal purposes were originally set apart in the malnad after a careful consideration of the local requirements. All communal lands, whether gomal or *soppinabetta* or district forests, and even occupied *kans*, are being indiscriminately reserved at present by the Forest Department. No benefits are derived by the public from the coupes formed by the Forest Department. The decisions of the Forest Settlement Officer have not been very favourable to the malnad raiyats. It is therefore suggested that the forest policy of Government in this respect may be kindly reconsidered, and the forests in the malnad allowed to continue to remain as District forests.

NOTE.—G. O. No. R. 1703-5—Ft. 119-11-2, dated 24th September 1912, explaining that there are no grounds for presuming excessive reservation, was read out to members.

SUBJECT No. 95.

Rules regarding the grant of lands containing sandal trees.

Messrs. C. Srinivasa Rao and B. Kesaviah, Chikmagalur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Applicants have to pay the price of sandal trees standing on the lands for which applications are made. In the malnad, this rule works as a great hardship to the raiyats, and the Government loses its revenue. The rule may be done away with, at least in the malnad districts. In the Kadur district, *darkhasts*, in which the upset price demanded amounted to so much as Rs. 400 in a single case, had to be rejected as the applicants could not pay the amount.

Reply of Government.—The subject is under the consideration of Government.

SUBJECT No. 96.

Bonus on sandal trees.

Messrs. Revana Siddiah and Halappa, Honnali taluk, Bhavani Rao, Shikarpur taluk; Srinivasa Deekshit, Shikarpur municipality; K. Shankarnarayana Rao, Nagar Sabha; P. Venkappiah, Shimoga municipality and Syed Rahim Sab, Heggaddevankote taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present value of the bonus on sandal trees on assessed waste lands is recovered when such lands are granted for cultivation. There is no provision for the return of this amount when this land is relinquished by the occupant. A fresh applicant has to pay the present value of the bonus on the same sandal trees again, so that Government would be getting several times the value of such trees from successive applicants for the same land. Besides this on account of the high